

Youth Resource Connections

*Published bi-weekly by the
U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Youth Services
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210 (202) 693-3030,
http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/*

Volume 4, Number 3

February 27, 2004

Headlines

The National Youth Development Practitioners Institute (YDPI) holds Professional Training Opportunity for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Staff and Youth Service Providers. WIA Formula staff is invited to participate in the YDPI training session which will be held March 21-26 in Dallas, Texas. YDPI offers this professional development opportunity for state and local workforce investment board staff, youth service providers, and frontline staff. The training consists of a week long curriculum where staff receive training on how to improve youth development programming in the areas of workforce development, educational achievement, and organizational development. A limited number of slots are available. For more information about the training, including course offerings, registration costs, and accommodations, contact Dr. Carolyn D. Blue at cblue@npcl.org or 888-528-6725 or Charles Modiano at modiano.charles@dol.gov or 202-693-3605. Interested parties should contact YDPI staff by **March 8.**

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Sponsors Kick off for the "Touching Lives and Communities" Initiative. The purpose of the initiative is to build partnerships between Faith-Based and Community Organizations and local Workforce Investment Boards including One-Stop Career Centers. On February 18, ETA's Assistant Secretary Emily DeRocco participated in an introductory conference call with Brent Orrell in DOL's Office of Community and Faith-Based Initiative and Stephanie Powers of the National Association of Workforce Boards to began a dialogue about the partnership. Assistant Secretary DeRocco presented an overview of the initiative, describing the purpose and value of developing partnerships, and the resources available from ETA to support the initiative's efforts. Nine additional conference calls are scheduled during February and March. To register, visit: <http://www.nawb.org/asp/conferenceCallList.asp>

The U.S. Department of Education (DOEd) Announces Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDF) Unveils New Web Site. DOEd's new website for the Character Education and Civic Engagement Technical Assistance Center (CETAC) will provide state program administrators, local educators and the public with information on character education and civic engagement. To access the website visit: <http://www.cetac.org/>.

Funding Opportunities

SPECIAL NOTE: Supplemental Funds Available to Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative Grantees. The Office of Youth Services (OYS) retracts this announcement. It was included the February 6 YRC; however, this initiative was funded in September 2003. OYS regrets any confusion or inconvenience this entry may have caused.

U.S. Department of Education (DOEd) Announces the Carol White Physical Education Program. DOEd will award grants to develop, expand or improve physical education programs. Funds may be used for in-school or after school programs and home schooled students. Local educational agencies and community non-profit organizations are eligible to apply. For more information contact Pat Rattler at 202-260-1952. **Deadline: March 22.**

Bell South is Accepting Concept Proposals for Opportunity Grants. Bell South will fund a limited number of Opportunity Grants through unsolicited proposals. This year, the categories have been expanded to include proposals that address key issues of interest to the education community. For more information visit: <http://www.bellsouthfoundation.com/grants>. **Deadline: March 1 (concept paper).**

Nominations Invited for William T. Scholars Program. The William T. Grant Foundation supports original research which focuses on the factors that influence the well being and healthy development of adolescents and young adults. The scholars program supports promising post-doctoral researchers from diverse disciplines. Four to six scholars are selected and each will receive \$300,000 distributed over a five-year period. For more information visit: <http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org>. **Deadline: July 1.**

Opportunities for Youth

Hitachi Foundation Offers Awards for High School Students. High school students are invited to apply for the Yoshiyama Award which honors students for their community-service activities. To qualify, students must meet the following criteria: be a high school senior attending school in the United States or one of the territories. For additional information visit: <http://www.hitachi.org/yoshiyama/index.html>. **Deadline: April 1.**

USA Funds Accepts Applications for College Scholarships. USA Funds is accepting applications for two scholarship programs to assist college students who demonstrate financial need. Up to \$2.85 million in renewable USA Fund Access to Education Scholarships will be awarded to qualified students nationwide. Applicants must be enrolled or plan to enroll in coursework at an accredited two-or four year college, university, or vocational school beginning with the fall term 2004 through February 1, 2005. For more information visit: <http://www.usafunds.org>. **Deadline: March 15.**

Do Something Seeks Youth Leaders for Brick Awards Program. The Do Something Brick Awards program is designed to honor young people under the age of 18 for service in the areas of community building, health or the environment. Brick winners are leaders who identify and realize solutions to problems facing local communities across America. Application forms may be downloaded at <http://www.dosomething.org>. **Deadline: April 8.**

Publications

Engaging Schools produced by the National Research Council Institute of Medicine, calls for recapturing the attention of urban students, statistically the most at risk of failure in their school systems. In chapters that broach the concept of engagement and how it applies to school systems, families and communities, the institute presents 10 recommendations for engagement-minded reform. To obtain a copy contact (888) 624-8422 or visit: <http://www.nap.edu>.

Creating Positive Images by Patsy Hallman advises youth how to communicate with adults in order to project a positive image. To obtain a copy call (800) 462-6420.

Strengthening Youth Development by the Youth Development Institute (YDI) addresses the current state and future of the youth development movement. The information about YDI and other youth development intermediaries is followed by profiles of three YDI initiatives and details on the institute's seven tiers of technical assistance. To obtain a copy call (212) 925-6675.

Program and Youth Spotlight

Birmingham Youth Opportunity Grant Receives United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Award. Birmingham Works for Youth (Youth Opportunity Grant) program received the Community Pioneer Achievement Award from the local Chapter of the UNCF. Over 1400 youth in Birmingham's Enterprise Community receive services at the youth center. One of the many services focuses on community service. For more information contact DeForrest Brown at 205-497-2248 or Anita Cates at 205-458-2184.

Youth at the Baltimore Youth Opportunity Grant Overcomes Obstacles to Obtain High School Diploma. Eric, a high school dropout with numerous challenges enrolled in the Baltimore HEBAC program. He had substance abuse and, mental health issues, and lacked permanent housing at the time he entered the program. YOG staff helped him overcome his challenges by assisting him with counseling, life skills training, and educational classes. Since being in the HEBAC program he has obtained a high school diploma and maintains a permanent residence.

Websites

SkillsUSA Website Provides Training Information to Help Youth. SkillsUSA offers several curriculums that stress employability skills, leadership training, and community service, as well as CareerSafe, a safety training program designed to provide students with the fundamental safety information needed in the workplace. Visit: <http://www.skillsusa.org>.

YouthARTS website is designed to give art agencies, juvenile justice agencies, social service organizations, and other community-based organizations detailed information about how to plan, run, provide training and evaluate arts programs for at-risk youth. Visit: <http://www.americaspromise.org/howhelp/checklist/>.

Youth Life Skills website provides resources the help individuals working with youth to organize and implement life skills training sessions, teen conferences, youth leadership training, mentoring projects, and independent living programs. Visit: <http://youthlifefskills.nrcys.ou.edu/>.

Children with Disabilities website offer families, service providers, and other interested individuals information about advocacy, education, employment, health, housing, recreation, technical assistance. Visit: <http://www.childrenwithdisabilities.ncjrs.org/>.

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Technical Assistance Update for February 27, 2004

AskA+ Locator website connects students, teachers and parents with experts on the Internet. Visit: <http://www.vrd.org/locator/>.

Calendar of Events

March 9-10, 2004. Cincinnati, Ohio. Promising Practices for School-Based Gang Prevention and Intervention. For more information, go to: <http://www.vpp.eku.edu/>.

March 11-14. Orlando, FL. Performance Resource Press. 16th Annual National Student Assistance Conference. Contact: (800) 453-7733 or visit: <http://www.nsac.info>.

March 12-14. Colonial Williamsburg, VA. National Association of Secondary School Principals. Leadership Experience and Development Conference. Contact: (703) 860-0200 or visit: http://www.nasc.us/pdf/lead_brochure2004.pdf.

March 23. Towson, MD. Baltimore Workforce Investment Board Youth Council and the Mayor's Office of Employment Development. WIA Youth Council Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Conference. Contact: Alice Cole or Donnice Brown at (410) 396-6727 or visit: <http://www.oedworks.com/youthserv/index.htm>.

March 24-26 Milwaukee, WI. The E Institute for Entrepreneurship. Young Entrepreneur Conference and Business Competition. Contact: (414) 302-9922 or visit: <http://www.theeplace.org>.

March 24-26 New Orleans, LA . University of Southern Mississippi. 2004 Gulf South Summit on Service-Learning, Civic Engagement and Positive Youth Development. Contact: (601) 266-6342 or visit: <http://www.tulane.edu/~ServLrng/summit>.

March 24-26. Chicago, IL. Three Day Gang Specialist Certification Course. This class, presented by Gang Prevention Inc., teaches techniques for identifying street gangs and offers gang intervention and prevention tactics. For more information, go to: <http://www.gangpreventioninc.com/training.html>; contact: (773) 774-0900; or email gangprev@flash.net.

March 26-28 Milwaukee, WI. National Association of Secondary School Principals. Leadership Experience and Development Conference. Contact: (800) 974-9393.

March 26-27. Dallas, TX. Faith-Based Child and Family Services Co-Sponsored by Search Institute. For more information go to: http://www.family-ministry.org/CFCM_Conferences.html.

March 28-31, 2004. Las Vegas, NV. The 31st National Conference on Juvenile Justice. For more information, contact: (888) 746-6955.

April 14-16. Philadelphia, PA. The Center for Mental Health & Criminal Justice Research presents "Reentry to Recovery: People with Mental Illness Coming Home from Prison or Jail." Contact: cmhs&cjr@ihhpcpar.rutgers.edu; or go to: <http://www.ihhpcpar.rutgers.edu/cmhs-cjr>.

May 23-26. Portland, Oregon. National Association of Workforce Development Professionals. 15th Annual Conference. Contact: Paul Mendez at (202) 589-1790; or visit <http://www.nawdp.org/conference.htm>.